

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are pending in the application, of which claims 1 and 13 are independent. Favorable reconsideration and further examination are requested.

The title has been amended to address the objection on page 2 of the Office Action. Withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4 and 9-12 were rejected over U.S. Patent No. 6,188,307 (Katsuki); claims 13, 15, and 19-20 were rejected over U.S. Patent No. 5,867,083 (Takeuchi); claims 5-6, 8, and 14 were rejected over Katsuki in view of U.S. Patent No. 292,089 (Smith); and claims 7 and 16-18 were rejected over Takeuchi in view of Katsuki. As shown above, Applicant has amended the claims to define the invention with greater particularity. In view of these amendments, reconsideration and withdrawal of the art rejections are respectfully requested.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite an assembly that includes a housing that holds a first electrical component and a second electrical component. The housing has an underside and first and second terminals of the first and second electrical components are on the underside of the housing. The terminals have an arrangement that corresponds to an arrangement of contacts on a printed circuit board. The applied art is not understood to disclose or to suggest these features of claim 1.

In this regard, it was said on page 8 of the Office Action that "Katsuki teaches that the housing [FIG. 1, 5] has an underside, the first and second terminals [FIG. 1, 10, 11, 12, 13] being on the underside of the housing." Katsuki, however, does not teach terminals having an arrangement that corresponds to an arrangement of contacts on a printed circuit board. Takeuchi was therefore cited to make up for these deficiencies.

Takeuchi teaches mounting a single electrical component, namely a thermistor, on a printed circuit board. (FIG. 8, col. 2, lines 17-23). According to Takeuchi, in order to withstand large current surges, the size of the thermistors increases which "causes the associative printed board on which the thermistors 45 are mounted to increase in area accordingly." (FIG. 8, col. 2, lines 17-23). The examiner appears to equate the terminals (FIG. 8, A LINE and B LINE) of Takeuchi's thermistor to Applicant's claimed arrangement of contacts on a printed circuit board.

Applicant, however, notes that, in contrast to the Applicant's claimed arrangement in which the first and second terminals correspond to the terminals of two different components, Takeuchi's thermistor is a single electrical component. As such, Takeuchi fails to disclose or suggest two electrical components, i.e., the first and second electrical components of claim 1, much less an assembly in which "the first and second terminals of the first and second electrical components of the assembly [are] on the underside of the housing and [have] an arrangement that corresponds to an arrangement of contacts on a printed circuit board" as recited in claim 1.

For at least the foregoing reasons, claim 1 is believed to be patentable over Takeuchi and Katsuki. U.S. Patent No. 292,089 (Smith) which is applied against some of the dependent claims, is not believed to add anything that would remedy the foregoing deficiencies of Takeuchi and Katsuki vis-à-vis claim 1. Accordingly, claim 1 is believed to be allowable.

Claim 13 is directed to circuitry and roughly corresponds to claim 1. Claim 13 is believed to be allowable for at least the reasons presented above.

Each of the dependent claims is also believed to define patentable features of the invention. Each dependent claim partakes of the novelty of its corresponding independent claim and, as such, has not been discussed specifically herein.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

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Finally, Applicants are submitting herewith the original signed Declaration for this case to substitute for the Declaration currently on file. In the Declaration currently on file, the U.S. serial number and filing date were added post-signing (when they were added to the Assignment). A Supplemental Data Sheet is also being submitted herewith to provide the correct addresses of the inventors.

Applicant's undersigned attorney can be reached at the address shown below. All telephone calls should be directed to the undersigned at 617-368-2141.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____

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